

Paul Tracy returns • Hideki Mutoh impresses • Darren Manning cooks...

2009  
RACE DATES  
REVEALED

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indycar.com

SEPTEMBER 2008



HUNTER-REAY MAKES  
RAHAL A WINNER AGAIN

## LEAN MEAN GREEN MACHINE

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SCOTT DIXON

RYAN BRISCOE

TONY KANAAN

RYAN HUNTER-REAY





**32**

**KV A-OK**

KVRT and Oriol Servia  
are showing how the  
switch is done

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KVRT knew the switch would be tough. But the effort's paying off

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for links to pages, text or  
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Click gallery button  
(left) for photo gallery  
Click video button  
(right) to play video

# 04

## OH CANADA!

First Edmonton, then Toronto in 2009...the IndyCar Series looks northward

Canadians warmly welcomed the IndyCar Series to Edmonton, and get more next year. That includes a stronger-by-the-minute KVRT team with Oriol Servia (opposite)

## GET THE LATEST NEWS

*Click on a headline below*

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Not that PT needs much of an introduction. So, what has he been up to?

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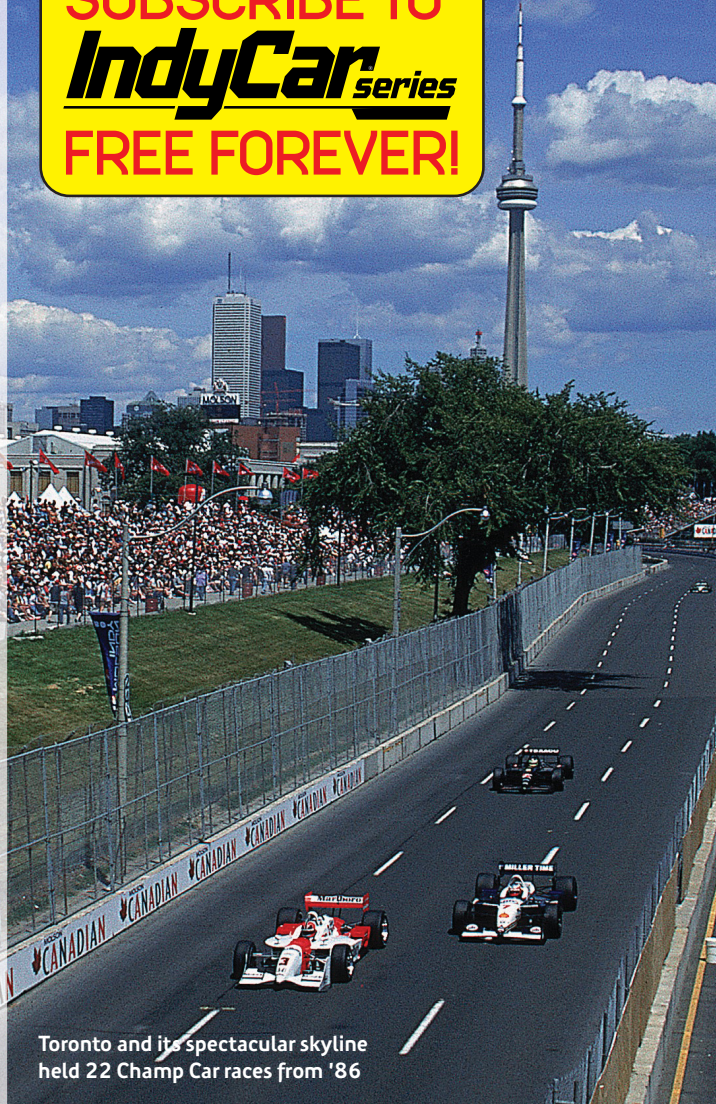


Robert Laberge/Getty Images

# LOCKING IN '09

Toronto and Long Beach join 18-race IndyCar Series schedule. Homestead hosts finale

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Toronto and its spectacular skyline held 22 Champ Car races from '86



Danica Patrick waves to the fans in Edmonton. We're not sure if she's won any Canadian awards yet



## Danica is your favorite – it's official!

She may have missed out on the *Teen Choice Award* for favorite female athlete, but Danica Patrick is tops among female athletes according to a recent Harris poll. The AGR driver was the favorite over tennis players Serena and Venus Williams and Maria Sharapova, soccer player Mia Hamm and golfer Annika Sorenstam.

Patrick missed out on the top female athlete award at the ESPN ESPY Awards, as did Scott Dixon for Best Driver, but she, along with Helio Castroneves, was a presenter at the awards show. Castroneves and WNBA

player Candace Parker presented the International Female Athlete award, and Patrick and actor Forest Whitaker presented the Best Upset award.

Prior to the ESPY Awards, Castroneves was named Auto Racer of the Year during Univision's inaugural *Premios Deportes Awards*. The *Premios Deportes Awards* were created to honor Latin athletes and their talent, perseverance, and character, as well as their impact on the Latin Community. Fellow IndyCar Series racer Milka Duno and 2000 Indianapolis 500 winner Juan Montoya were also nominated.

Paul Webb/LAT



Along with the Pole Award, the official oil of the IndyCar Series and Danica Patrick, add Infineon Raceway's Aug 22-24 race, the PEAK Antifreeze & Motor Oil Indy Grand Prix of Sonoma County.



Robert Laberge/Getty Images

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## 2009 IndyCar Series

DATE	LOCATION
Sunday, April 5	Streets of St. Petersburg 1.8-mile street course
Sunday, April 19	Streets of Long Beach 1.968-mile street course
Sunday, April 26	Kansas Speedway 1.5-mile oval
Sunday, May 24	Indianapolis Motor Speedway 2.5-mile oval
Sunday, May 31	The Milwaukee Mile 1.0-mile oval
Saturday, June 6*	Texas Motor Speedway 1.5-mile oval
Sunday, June 21	Iowa Speedway 0.875-mile oval
Saturday, June 27*	Richmond International Raceway 0.75-mile oval
Sunday, July 5	Watkins Glen International 3.4-mile road course
Sunday, July 12	Streets of Toronto 1.721-mile street course
Sunday, July 26	Edmonton City Centre Airport 1.973-mile airport course
Saturday, Aug. 1*	Kentucky Speedway 1.5-mile oval
Sunday, Aug. 9	Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course 2.258-mile road course
Sunday, Aug. 23	Infineon Raceway 2.245-mile road course
Saturday, Aug. 29*	Chicagoland Speedway 1.5-mile oval
Sunday, Sept. 6	The Raceway at Belle Isle Park 2.906-mile street course
Saturday, Sept. 19	Twin Ring Motegi 1.5-mile oval
Sunday, Oct. 11	Homestead-Miami Speedway 1.5-mile oval

\* Night race

Darrell Ingham/Allsport

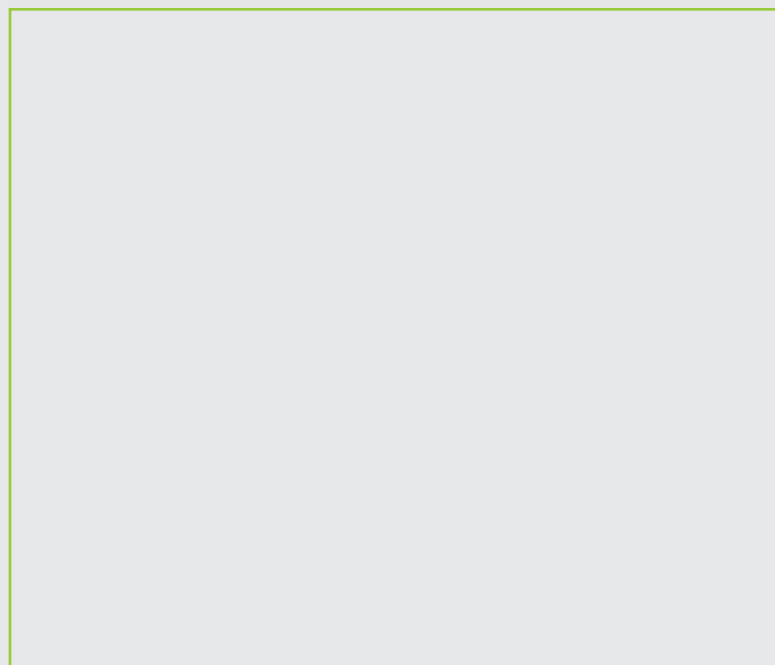
## Inside Line

Jeff Olson, Senior Writer



# REDUCING THE GRIND

2009 schedule gives crews a life back...



**VIDEO**  
Danica Patrick confronts Milka Duno about on-track behavior at Mid-Ohio

Dan Boyd/LAT



The grind of 2008 proved too much for some crew members

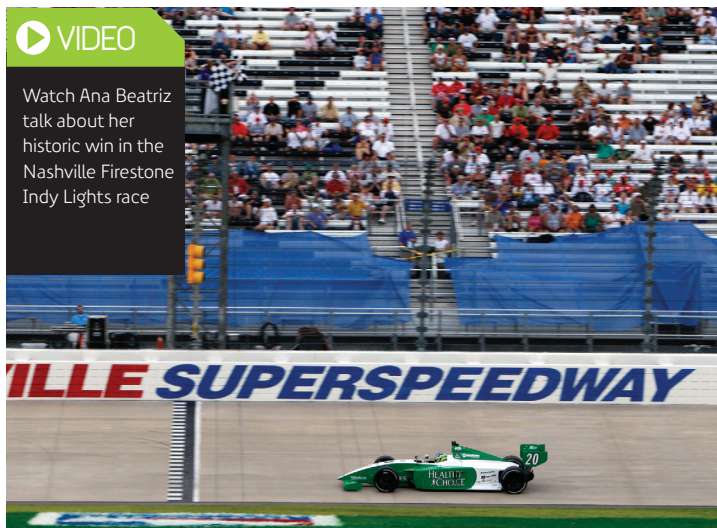
Paul Webb/LAT



Debbie Lubowicz/Getty Images

## DIXON LOOKS FOR SIX

[click here for full story](#)



**VIDEO**  
Watch Ana Beatriz talk about her historic win in the Nashville Firestone Indy Lights race

Dan Strech/LAT

## BEATRIZ'S LIGHTS WIN

[click here for full story](#)



**VIDEO**  
Ryan Hunter-Reay, one of four first-time winners so far in 2008, talks about the Watkins Glen victory

Dan Boyd/LAT

## FIRST TIMERS GALORE

[click here for full story](#)



## FIVE'S NOT ENOUGH

The '03 champ moves closer to title No. 2, but wa

As the 2007 IndyCar Series season was winding down with a handful of races to go, Scott Dixon was putting together a string of victories for his Ganassi team that left him just short in the title fight. At the same point in '08, Dixon 's making his intentions on the trophy clear, and putting the rest of the field on notice that they'll have to go through him to claim it.

After scoring improbable wins at Nashville and Edmonton to bring his total to five, Dixon had a 65-point lead heading to Kentucky. Although his closest pursuer did a good job keeping him from getting too far ahead with a few, yes, second-place finishes, Team Penske's Helio Castroneves still doesn't have a win in '08, and the chances of taking the title without one are pretty slim.

For anyone else, it's a long shot. For Dixon's teammate Dan Wheldon or AGR's Tony Kanaan to get close, they'd have to score nearly maximum points in three races while Dixon DNF'd, and finish ahead of him in the fourth. Given that the Kiwi has only two finishes outside the top five all season, that's an unlikely proposition.

"As far as the champion want to go out there and Dixon after Edmonton. "V to go; a 65-point lead, it' you get 50 points for a w for most laps led.

"We've got a lot of wo Consistent finishes are go can get another race win would definitely put the

In the final races, Dixo championship to pursue, to tie and perhaps beat V victory record of six wins

**FAST FACT**  
The Rookie of the Year AGR's Hideki Mutoh 1 points before Kentuc Wilson 20 more back

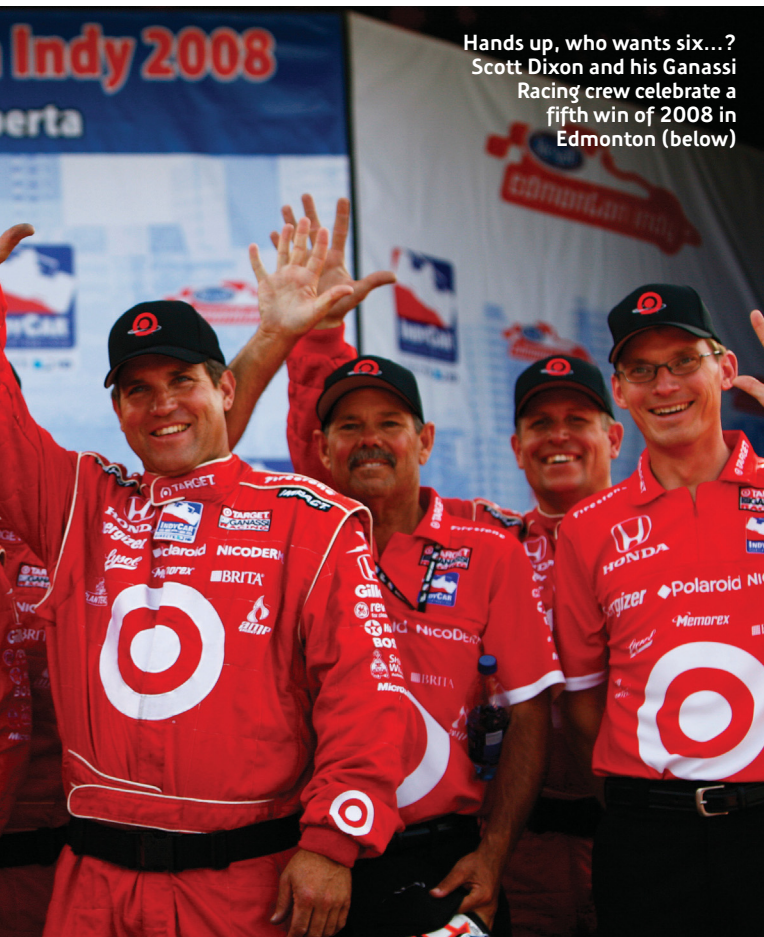
Scott Dixon may have tied it by the time you read this, but Dan Wheldon holds the record for wins in a season. In 2005, he won six, including Indy. Not surprisingly, he was the champ (right).



Darrell Ingham/Getty Images

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Hands up, who wants six...? Scott Dixon and his Ganassi Racing crew celebrate a fifth win of 2008 in Edmonton (below)

Gavin Lawrence/Getty Images

# GH FOR DIXON

ants more wins

hship goes, we still win every race," said We still have four races s not that big when in and maybe three

rk ahead of us. ing to be tough. If we or another two, that nail in the coffin." n not only has a but also four chances Wheldon's season

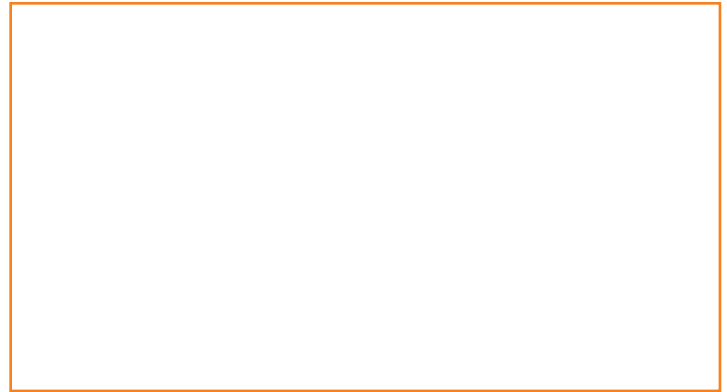
ar race is heating up. ed Will Power by 29 ky, with Justin



Darrell Ingham/Getty Images

# THE THRILL IS BACK

Paul Tracy's in an IndyCar Series car. All's well with the world

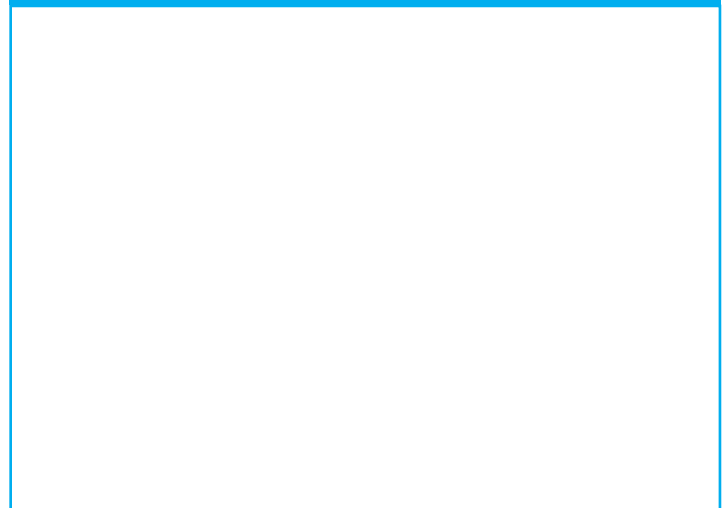


Darrell Ingham/Getty Images

VIDEO

Paul Tracy and his fans were glad to see him back in a race car. Watch his thoughts on the Edmonton race

This just in...







# 2008 INDYCAR SERIES SCHEDULE

DATE	TRACK	WINNER
Sat March 29	Homestead-Miami Speedway	Scott Dixon
Sun April 6	Streets of St. Petersburg	Graham Rahal
Sat April 19	Twin Ring Motegi (J)	Danica Patrick
Sun April 20**	Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach	Will Power
Sun April 27	Kansas Speedway	Dan Wheldon
Sun May 25	92nd Indianapolis 500	Scott Dixon
Sun June 1	The Milwaukee Mile	Ryan Briscoe
Sat June 7	Texas Motor Speedway	Scott Dixon
Sun June 22	Iowa Speedway	Dan Wheldon
Sat June 28	Richmond International Raceway	Tony Kanaan
Sun July 6	Watkins Glen International	Ryan Hunter-Reay
Sat July 12	Nashville Superspeedway	Scott Dixon
Sun July 20	Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course	Ryan Briscoe
Sat July 26	Streets of Edmonton (CAN)	Scott Dixon

DATE	TRACK	TV TIME*/NETWORK
Sat Aug. 9	Kentucky Speedway	6:30pm/ESPN2
Sun Aug. 24	Infineon Raceway	5:30pm/ESPN2
Sun Aug. 31	The Raceway at Belle Isle Park	3:30pm/ABC
Sun Sept. 7	Chicagoland Speedway	3:30pm/ABC
Sun Oct. 26	Streets of Surfers Paradise (AUS)	TBA/TBA

\* All times are Eastern \*\*Champ Car World Series finale

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# RACE 8 Iowa Corn Indy 250

Iowa Speedway, June 22

Quote of the day - Dan Wheldon

*“What a great day for Target Chip Ganassi Racing and a great birthday present for myself.”*



The race at Iowa Speedway was a much smoother affair than last year, especially for winner Dan Wheldon (right, top). Scott Dixon and Dan Wheldon race for the win (right). Hideki Mutoh (right, below) had his best finish

Dan Strecek/LAT

## RACE 8

Iowa Corn Indy 250  
Iowa Speedway, Iowa  
June 22

## RACE 9

SunTrust Indy Challenge  
Richmond International  
Raceway, Va., June 28

## RACE 10

Camping World Grand Prix  
Watkins Glen International  
Raceway, N.Y., July 6

## RACE 11

Firestone Indy 200  
Nashville Superspeedway,  
Tenn., July 12

## RACE 12

Honda Indy 200 at Mid-Ohio  
Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course,  
Ohio, July 20

## RACE 13

Rexall Edmonton Indy  
Edmonton City Centre Airport,  
Canada, July 26

2008 INDYCAR  
SERIES POINTS

2008 SCHEDULE

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Darrell Ingtham/Getty Images



## RESULTS

Pos.	Driver	Team	Laps
1	Dan Wheldon	Target Chip Ganassi Racing	250
2	Hideki Mutoh	Andretti Green Racing	250
3	Marco Andretti	Andretti Green Racing	250
4	Scott Dixon	Target Chip Ganassi Racing	250
5	A.J. Foyt IV	Vision Racing	250
6	Danica Patrick	Andretti Green Racing	250
7	Ryan Briscoe	Team Penske	250
8	Ryan Hunter-Reay	Rahal Letterman Racing	250
9	Will Power	KV Racing Technology	250
10	Graham Rahal	Newman/Haas/Laniġan Racing	250

Race Time 1h38m35.89s Avg speed 136.007mph  
 Winning margin 0.1430sec Starters 24  
 Lead changes 9 among 4 drivers  
 Caution laps 57 Pole Scott Dixon, set on points  
 All cars are Dallara-Honda-Firestone

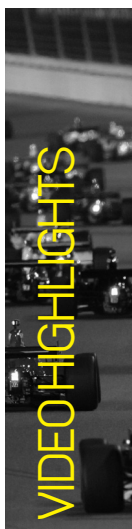
Michael Levitt/LAT



Dan Strecek/LAT



Dan Strecek/LAT





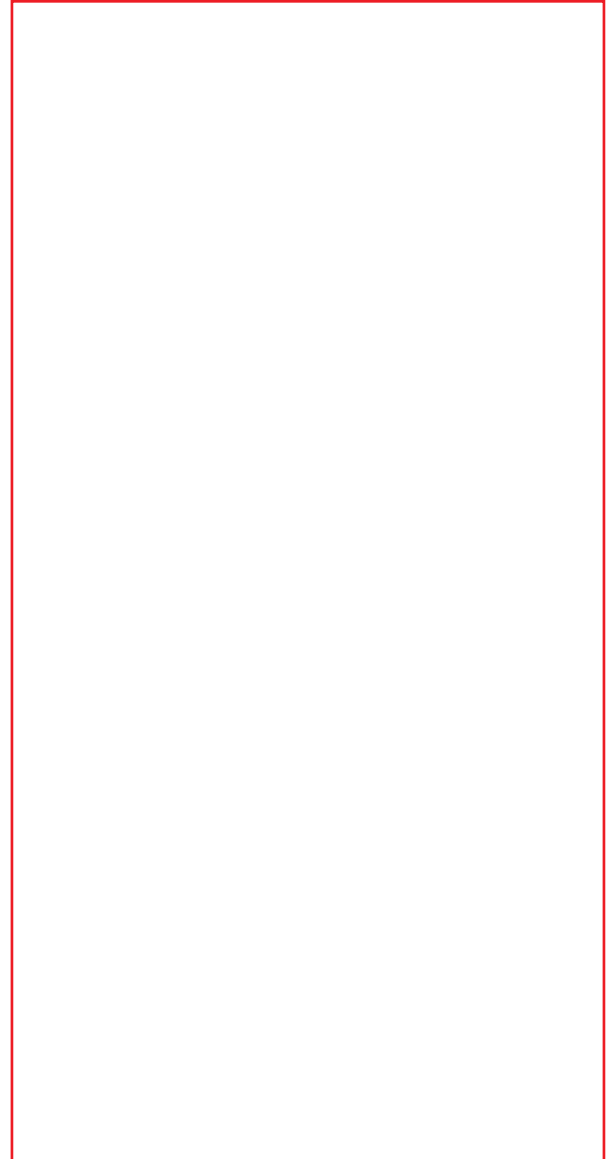
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Second time around, Ryan Briscoe's had way more highs than lows in a season that's put him with the IndyCar Series' elite

*Words* Jeff Olson *Main Image* Roderick Trestrail

# THE GOOD TIMES ROLL



Ryan Briscoe can handle the spotlight (main); recent results have it shining on he and his Team Penske crew

Paul Webb/LAT



Watch Ryan Briscoe talk about his first win at the Milwaukee Mile - click on the triangle!

*“Experience means so much. Every race, I feel like we can get on the game quicker”*

RYAN BRISCOE



Early less-than-desirable results aside, Briscoe has become a consistent frontrunner in qualifying and the races

Chris McGrath/Getty Images



## HITTING IT OFF WITH HELIO

*Castroneves likes what he sees in his new teammate Ryan Briscoe*

As Ryan Briscoe prepared for his moment in the spotlight - a nationally televised interview following his win in July at Mid-Ohio - he got a surprise. Helio Castroneves jumped on his back in a congratulatory mugging that left Briscoe grinning.

Yep, the teammates get along.

There wasn't much question that they would, but there had been comparisons between Briscoe and the driver he replaced, Sam Hornish Jr.

Hornish and Castroneves got along, too, but Hornish was more reserved than Briscoe - and much, *much* more reserved than Castroneves.

"Ryan's a very social guy," says Castroneves. "We hang out, have dinner. It makes a difference when

you can bond in that way. You want to have a good atmosphere."

Replacing the NASCAR Sprint Cup-bound Hornish wouldn't be easy, and nobody knew that better than Briscoe.

"Those were big shoes to fill," Briscoe says of the 2006 Indianapolis 500 winner. "He was so successful and did so much for Team Penske. I come along and I haven't won a race and haven't really done anything in the series. It takes a little bit of time to feel like you're a part of it. But that was all mental. We've gotten to know each other very well. The team brought me on board with open arms from the beginning and that's a real good feeling."

Paul Webb/LAT



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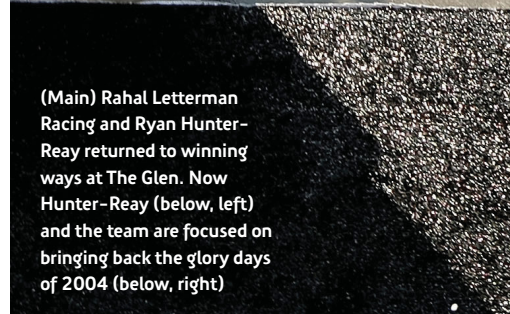


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# BACK TO RAHAL-ITY

If the last few seasons were the wilderness years for Rahal Letterman Racing, 2008 has seen its return to civilization. Team boss Bobby Rahal puts much of that down to the new guy behind the wheel, Ryan Hunter-Reay

Words David Phillips Main Image Nick Labam/Getty Images



(Main) Rahal Letterman Racing and Ryan Hunter-Reay returned to winning ways at The Glen. Now Hunter-Reay (below, left) and the team are focused on bringing back the glory days of 2004 (below, right)



Darrell Ingham/Getty Images



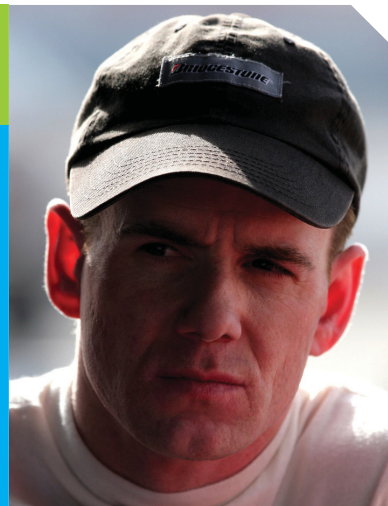
Buddy Rice  
Rahal Letterman Racing its crown moment – a deserved victory in the 2004 Indianapolis

Donald Miralle/Getty Images



## MORE THAN A BIG "E"

*Paul Dana left a lasting legacy to the IndyCar Series*



Garvin Lawrence/Getty Images

*“After I finished  
second at Iowa,  
the pressure is on  
to go one step  
further and win  
a race”*

HIDEKI MUTOH

THE REAL DEATH

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R

It's been a tough ride for Japanese drivers in the IndyCar Series. But, in rookie Hideki Mutoh, Honda's homeland now has a potential winner

*Words* Jeff Olson *Main Image* Roderick Trestrail



Hideki Mutoh is already part of the Andretti Green Racing "gang"

Paul Webby/LAT

## A QUESTION OF INTEGRATION

*Lesson one: If you don't know, ask*



Jonathan Ferrey/Getty Images

### VIDEO

Honda and the Japanese race fans want a home hero to cheer on in the IndyCar Series. Hideki Mutoh might be the guy

No longer on the outside looking in... Hideki Mutoh has already earned the respect of his Andretti Green racing teammates

VIDEO

In 2003, Scott Dixon celebrates a championship. Five years later, he's knocking on the door to do it again

A close-up photograph of a man's face, likely a race driver, looking through the visor of a racing helmet. The helmet is black with a red stripe. The man's eyes are focused and intense. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a race track or pit area.

Words Ric  
Main Image Darrell Ingham/G

# cham•pi•on

(cham' pē  
1. a person who has defeated all opponents in a competition or series of competitions to hold first place. 2. a fighter or warrior. 3. first among all contestants or competitors

# pres•sure

(presh  
1. a constraining or compelling force or influence  
2. urgency, as of affairs or business: *He works well under pressure*

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Scott Dixon (main) is the guy being chased for the 2008 IndyCar Series title by drivers like Tony Kanaan (below left)



*“I have to win races, and I’ve got to wait for other people to make mistakes”*

TONY KANAAN

Richard James/Getty Images

## TAKE IT AS IT COMES

*Before winning a championship in 1980, Johnny Rutherford had to lose one in '76*

After coming agonizingly close to winning the 1976 title, Johnny Rutherford learned not to focus on such things, but instead just go out and do the best job he could on any given day.

“That’s the mistake most young drivers make if they’re in that position, to focus on it too heavily,” Rutherford says. “I did that when I came oh-so-close in 1976. That was the one that taught me. It went right down to the last race of the season, between Gordon Johncock and me. All I had to do was finish seventh or better and I had it locked up, but my car blew an oil line on the turbocharger. Gordie took it by 20 points.

“I decided right then I wouldn’t count points, but just go out there, do the best I could and not let the pressures build. It comes out better in the end.”

That line of thinking is all about winning races and letting the rest take care of itself.

“Nobody remembers who finished second,” he says. “So you always go for the win, or the best you can do on a given day. You can’t dwell on failures

or successes. You’ve got to take it as it comes.”

And the failures will come, just as they did for Rutherford in '76. The trick’s not to let it bother you.

“It’s water off a duck’s back. If it was meant for you to be champion, it would have happened. It’s not easy, because it’s a goal you’ve set for yourself and you’re so intent on achieving it. But you get over it, because there’s next season.”



...n).  
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 essage.

If you don't like pasta, don't choose auto racing as a career. Bottom line, the right food (main) and plentiful hydration (right) means better performance out on the racetrack

YO



# YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT

Psst, want to go faster for longer? Then go get some polysaccharide carbohydrates inside you. Sounds iffy? Well, it isn't, as we'll explain...

*Words Dave Lewandowski  
Main Image Michael Levitt/LAT  
and Ree Tucker*



Paul Webb/LAT



As Tony Kanaan can no doubt testify, drivers can lose around 5lbs of fluids during a race. (Below) Pizza is Bruno Junqueira's treat of choice

Paul Webb/LAT

## EVERYTHING IN MODERATION

*When the IndyCar Series season comes to an end, the blowouts don't begin*

Bruno Junqueira learned long ago that a year-round regime of healthy eating and physical fitness suits him best. Moderation becomes a mind-set, which helps the Brazilian wade through an American culture of gastronomical excess mostly unscathed.

"I don't like fast food anyway," he says. "Eating the right food gives you better energy."

But there is a weekly indulgence.

"Once a week I might eat something sweet, or pizza," the Dale Coyne Racing driver says with a cheeky grin. "Usually, Brazilians eat pizza on Sunday night, but because we've been racing every Sunday this season it's been a long time since I've had Sunday night pizza.

So I look forward to that. When I eat pizza, I try to get the healthiest thing on it, too, like lots of vegetables."

In-season dietary, hydration and sleep programs are transferred by most IndyCar Series drivers to the off-season, which by their accounts isn't all that



"off" anymore. The approach to their overall health is a lifestyle choice – sometimes choosing whether to pay upfront or afterward in the gym.

"Just like it's your job to be prepared for the long [individual] race, you have to be prepared for the long race the whole year," fellow Brazilian and IndyCar Series rookie Mario Moraes explains.

At only 19 years old, though, surely Moraes' metabolism and physical work ethic allows more freedom of choice than some of the older athletes in the starting field?

"Maybe so," says Moraes, who enjoys Japanese food often, "but I'd rather stick to what I'm doing."

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Words: Jeff Olson Images: Steve Swope

# fast food

220mph on the racetrack or 450° F in the kitchen, Darren Manning's got it nailed



**VIDEO**

Darren Manning's such a star in the kitchen that the pros let him loose in theirs. This is Mo's A Place For Steaks in Indy

*"We're a bit backward in Yorkshire. Our pudding's a starter to the meal"*

DARREN "IRON CHEF" MANNING



## CALORIE BURNER

*Darren Manning eats well at home, but trains hard there, too*

While we waited for the meal, Darren Manning took us to his gym and taunted us. There, in front of his home theater, was a device that was part Bowflex, part iron maiden, and all A.J. Foyt (right).  
 The wheel of torture.  
 The metal-tubed device has a racing steering wheel attached to a bar holding several weights. When the wheel's turned, the bar holding the weights moves up and away from the machine, using gravity and weight to simulate the steering loads of a race car. The idea is to turn the wheel until the bar is horizontal, then hold it level. It's torment.  
 "That's almost exactly what we go through," Manning says as I struggle to hold

the bar level. "It really is that difficult. People don't realize how physically demanding it is to drive a race car, but it is."  
 The typical reaction is to move the hands on the wheel from the 3 o'clock and 9 o'clock positions to 11 and 4 in order to hold the bar level while turning left. Not an option while racing. The hands can't move.  
 Manning uses the device regularly, training shoulder, arm and neck muscles specific to steering. He usually slides several of the 5lb. weights to the end of the bar to most closely simulate race conditions.  
 And yes, A.J. has demonstrated his strength on it. "He used all the weights," Manning says.



From picking out the best bits of recipes from his collection of cookbooks to dishing out the end results, Darren Manning is totally absorbed in preparing one of his specialties: roast beef, Yorkshire pudding and roasted potatoes. Mmmm-mmm!



# BEEN THERE, DONE THAT. STILL DOING THAT.

Newman/Haas/Lanigan Racing prime mover Carl Haas has been doing things his way for five decades. And it's obvious his way works

*Words David Phillips Main Image Michael Levitt/LAT*



F. Peirce Williams/LAT

Michael Levitt/LAT

*“I don’t want to say Carl’s got a soft side, but he’s mellowed over time”*

JOHN TZOUANAKIS

(Main) Spot what’s missing from this portrait? Yes, the unlit Monte Cristo stogie. But it’s still unmistakably Carl Haas. (Opposite, from top) Here’s one of the bad boys; pre-race ritual – this time on Justin Wilson’s car at Indy; Haas with his fellow co-owner Paul Newman



# KV A-OK

Words Jon Oreovicz Main Image Michael Levitt/LAT

Switching to the IndyCar Series was never going to be a walk in the park. But for KVRT, with the results starting to build, things are looking A-OK

## PRODUCTION LINE

*Supplying an expanded fleet*

If the teams transitioning into the IndyCar Series had a tough year in 2008, imagine the workload for Dallara Automobili.

The Parma, Italy-based racing manufacturer had to fill a last-minute order from the Indy Racing League for 14 new chassis, provide the teams with a basic inventory of parts, as well as restock spares for nine carry-over teams.

And that's before the inevitable damage that can occur. Da



## Field with cars is a challenge Dallara has risen to

into the  
time getting  
prepped for  
and that faced

the car  
-minute  
League for  
six new  
of spare  
es for the

evitable crash  
Dallara

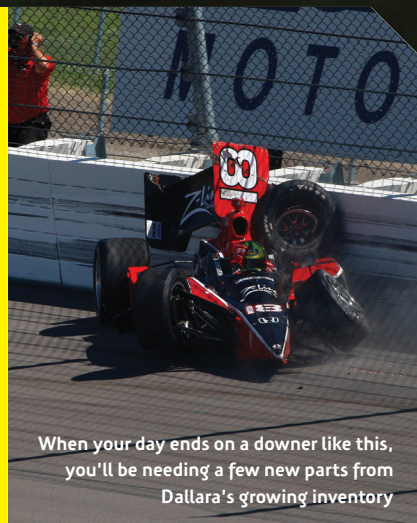
acknowledges there was a parts shortage during the first half of the season but, by the beginning of July, all of the new cars had been delivered and the lack of spares was no longer such a major talking point.

"We get a big crate from Italy twice a week and I think we've risen to the occasion," says Dallara's U.S. technical liaison, Sam Garrett. "To be honest, it caught us a bit off guard, because we didn't anticipate selling any new cars this year. As a matter of fact, we'd taken on other projects because we didn't have

much going on in this series, so it's been a challenge, to say the least."

KV Racing Technology finally shook down its two new cars in late June and raced them at Watkins Glen in July.

"A lot of us were waiting on aero stuff, mechanical parts, suspension pieces and small carbon stuff, so that's what kept us from being able to assemble our third and fourth cars," explains KVRT general manager Mark Johnson. "I've never been to a racetrack without a backup car before, so it was kind of unnerving."



When your day ends on a downer like this, you'll be needing a few new parts from Dallara's growing inventory



It's been a slog for Will Power, Oriol Servià and the KV Racing Technology team. But the hard work earned a four-five finish at Mid-Ohio, with Power leading the way

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# But is it art.....?

Words *Dave Lewandowski*

Images *Steve Swope*

Artist *Ed Carpenter*

Would Ed Carpenter, a craftsman on the track and in his own home, find inspiration in a bucket load of broken race car parts?

As his surname suggests, Ed Carpenter's a hands-on guy. During his formative racing days, he toiled for hours to optimize the quarter-midget and then the USAC Midget and Silver Crown cars he drove. Today, he enjoys the limited free time away from the racetrack refurbishing houses.

Give Carpenter a hammer, nails and some 2x4s and he'll build to order. Giving him a box of scrap IndyCar Series car parts and asking him to whip up a piece of unfettered artwork in an hour is a little more labor-intensive.

It's not that the Vision Racing driver lacks, well, vision. He's just more of a practical than abstract thinker, and more adept behind a steering wheel than a pottery wheel – although his mother, Vision Racing co-owner Laura George, still displays at home some of the ceramic pieces her school-age son produced.

"I've enjoyed going to places like the Smithsonian, but I've never been big on art museums," Carpenter says. "I guess I've never really understood abstract art. I appreciate stuff that's real."

The premise of this project is to collect discarded pieces from cars that had met an early retirement from the Firestone Indy 200 at Nashville Superspeedway, drop them off at the Vision Racing shop and have Carpenter create whatever catches his fancy. Shards of Ryan Briscoe's orange and white No. 6 Team Penske chassis, a suspension arm, rear caution light housing and a sheared front wing are among the offerings escaping the dumpster.

The adage one man's trash is another's treasure is on Carpenter's mind as he muses about what form the project should take. More Bob Vila than Salvador Dalí, he decides on a path of least mental fatigue and something – of course – practical. A large wind chime, suitable for the back patio of the Indianapolis home he shares with wife Heather and daughter Makenna.

"I like working on things, and when I got my first house it all really started because I was going to refinish my kitchen cabinets and put on a new countertop," Carpenter says. "By the end of the day, I just said forget it and tore the whole kitchen out and started over. Every time I do a project, I learn something more. That's what I

enjoy about working on houses; it's challenging and you see the finished results and you're getting something you're going to use or make nicer.

"Bringing something that's old and worn out back to life is what I enjoy, versus taking a pile of trash carbon and making something out of it."

Glances from passers-by in the shop lend credence to another adage that art is subjective as he ties the twisted bits of metal and carbon fiber that hang from a workbench vise together. *Voila!* It's finished. Or at least the artist says so.

"It looks a whole lot better when it's intact," Carpenter says of the complete race car. "There's a crash and it's amazing some of the things that come flying off the car and how many pieces can shatter. It does what it's designed to do."

In a way, Carpenter's No. 20 Menard's Dallara-Honda is art in motion and something he can relate to. It's the intricacy of the gears, the aerodynamics, engineering of the engine and science behind the Firestone Firehawk tire compounds that are an art form.

"There's a lot that goes into racing and it's how you put it all together," he says. "When the design process of a car begins, there's a lot of art and creativity involved. Aerodynamicists

have to use a lot of creativity – not to make it look cool, but to make the airflow over the car the most efficient it can be. You wouldn't think of that as art, but to manipulate the car to get it to do what you want by changing the shape of it, that really is an art."

Which is why he thinks automotive art should be displayed on the track, as a riot of 220mph color, and not hanging in shattered pieces from the ceiling... ■

*"I've never really understood abstract art. I appreciate stuff that's real"*

ED CARPENTER



(Main) The finished piece – broken race car parts transformed into an, er, abstract art mobile sort of thing... They say beauty is in the eye of the beholder, but Ed Carpenter's not so sure on this one. (Opposite, right) Carpenter wades in to his task, but it's obvious he much prefers his automotive art in one piece (opposite, left)



# IN THE GRO



If staying in your preferred groove was as easy as this, anyone could do it. But it isn't – which is why IndyCar Series drivers earn the big bucks, and why we watch in awe...



# DOVE

Running the best lane on an oval depends on the track, the driver, the car, leading, following, day, night...yeah, you get the general idea

*Words* Richard James *Main Image* Robert Laberge/Getty Images *Special effects* Ree Tucker



Streeter LeCIAZ/Getty Images

## CHANGE IN THE WEATHER

*The sun goes down and the car goes up...the track*

When the weather changes, where a race car likes to be on the track can change, too. Several IndyCar Series races start off as the day is fading into night, and the temperature and humidity can change radically between green and checker. As that happens, the cars will often start moving up the track.

"It doesn't really change what line you can run, it just changes the balance of the car," says Ganassi Racing's Dan Wheldon. "Normally at night, the car becomes more positive on the front end. So if you're loose on the low line, typically you can run up higher and that will help."

When the car starts to tend toward oversteer, it makes it difficult to force down onto the bottom because the more a driver turns the wheel, the more likely the rear is to get away. Running higher, a slightly loose car will effectively steer itself around the track.

"The cooler it gets, theoretically you'll pick up more front grip, which can be a good or bad thing, depending on how your car's handling at the time," AGR driver Marco Andretti explains. "If you're understeering, it tends to balance the car. If you're neutral already, you might need to make a change for that because you might go loose at night."

### VIDEO

Running a consistent groove is tough enough on your own. Add 20-plus other cars to the mix and it's a whole lot harder

*"I have a job to do. I'm not going to ask a driver a softball question"*

JACK ARUTE

VIDEO

Arute in his element... Scott Dixon's just won at a rain-shortened Nashville and, as always, Jack's first on the scene

# "Let's check in with Jack Arute"

Words Richard James  
Main Image Paul Webb/LAT

ABC/ESPN's pit reporters are the eyes and ears of every IndyCar Series TV broadcast. For veteran Jack Arute, getting the inside story on the on-track action comes from experience, trust...and a lot of legwork. We followed this human whirlwind on the j

Jack Arute is always there for the big moments – like Danica Patrick's first IndyCar Series win in Motegi, Japan



## ARUTE'S ROOTS

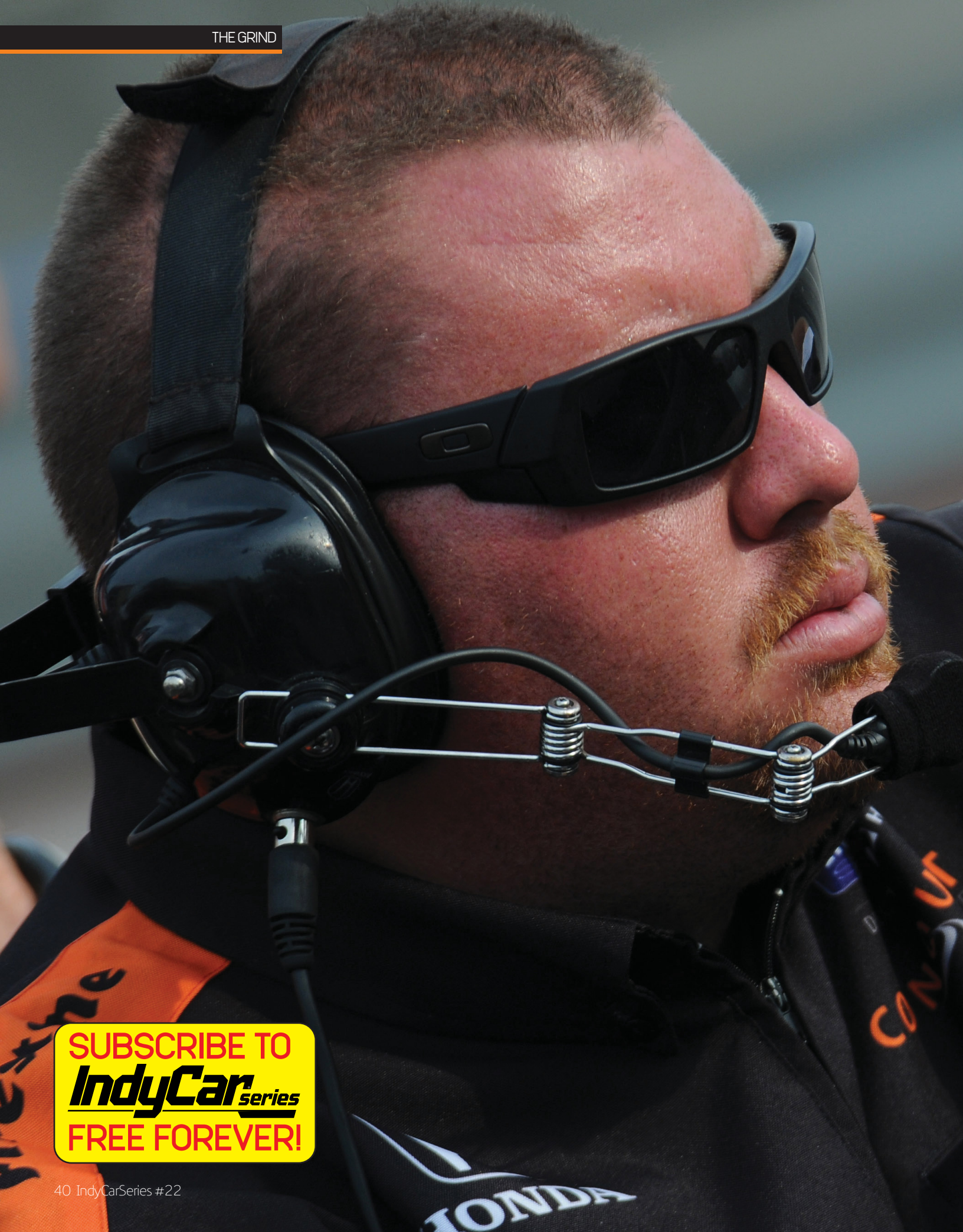
*How Jack landed his dream assignment*



cast.  
om  
ob



Paul Webb/LAT



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*“What doesn’t  
get done on  
Monday has  
to get done  
on Tuesday”*

JASON BECK

Craig Beck’s June and July consisted of six straight weekends of racing. The real skill is finding a few hours to do the laundry and pay bills...

# 24/7

*It was hot at Mid-Ohio. Steaming, asphalt-softening hot. But the heat, humidity, lack of sleep or lack of parts didn’t keep Jason Beck from toiling away with his guys on Enrique Bernoldi’s Conquest Racing Dallara-Honda.*

*The 28-year-old crew chief was in the middle of a grinding stretch of six straight races on the IndyCar Series schedule, beginning with Iowa Speedway on June 22 and concluding with the Edmonton street race*

*on July 26, without a weekend off in between.*

*Beck’s life as a mechanic on a transition team such as Conquest illustrates the unique demands placed on the men behind the machines. Here’s a peek at his diary during a crucial stretch beginning with the fast, demanding oval at Nashville Superspeedway and concluding with the trip back to Indianapolis following the Honda 200 at the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course.*

Words Bruce Martin  
Main Image Paul Webb/LAT



(Main) During the races, Jason Beck is the outside front tire man – the guy who ensures a pit stop is completed correctly. (Below) Practice pitstops are part of the routine on a race weekend

Paul Webby/LAT



Don Strech/LAT

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# pure desire

Words *Tim Harms* Main Image *Roderick Trestrail*

For Firestone Indy Lights team owner Sam Schmidt, racing begins and ends with winning. Finding drivers who share that hunger and desire is key to his continuing success



*“We’re not  
want to be  
for the sake  
We are here*



*...t race fans who  
...e out here just  
...e of doing it.  
...re to win races”*

SAM SCHMIDT



Sam Schmidt's desire to win races permeates the whole of his Firestone Indy Lights team. That same drive energizes the Sam Schmidt Paralysis Foundation



Dan Streck/LAT

## PERSONAL DRIVE

### *Sam Schmidt is focused on his Paralysis Foundation*

Sam Schmidt's drive and determination are exemplified by the performance of his Firestone Indy Lights team. But the biggest thing driving him is a desire to get out of his wheelchair and walk again.

To that end, the Sam Schmidt Paralysis Foundation continues to grow, expanding its ability to improve the quality of life for those with spinal cord injuries and to fund additional research.

"I probably spend 35 or 40 percent of my time working on foundation stuff," Schmidt says. "It's ultimately what we feel is going to get me out of this chair, so it's extremely important."

The SSPF board, under the leadership of president Ida Cahill, recently added Todd Davis, CEO of LifeLock, and Kevin Savoree, co-owner of Andretti Green Racing.

"We're trying to take the foundation to the next level financially and on what we're able to do with research," Schmidt says. "Kevin brings a lot of things to the table, but he also has a personal understanding, because his brother was paralyzed for 25 years and passed away a few years ago."

"We just want to have a bigger impact in regard to research in the spinal cord community. Things like medical research and quality of life grants, in the next six months, we want to take to the next level."



Ana Beatriz (above), along with Richard Antinucci and James Davison, are all race winners in 2008. (Below) Schmidt chats with Mario Andretti at Indy. (Left) Schmidt regularly hosts guest of his foundation at the racetrack

### VIDEO

In Florida, Sam Schmidt, once a regular scuba diver, had a chance to revisit his seafife friends

Shawn Payne/TMS Photo

Dan Streck/LAT





James Davison celebrates winning at Mid-Ohio

IMS Photo

# THESE JUST IN...

## JELD-WEN 100, IOWA SPEEDWAY, June 21

- |                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Dillon Battistini | Panther Racing            |
| 2 Arie Luyendyk Jr. | Andretti Green/AFS Racing |
| 3 Ana Beatriz       | Sam Schmidt Motorsports   |

## CORNING DUEL 1, WATKINS GLEN INTERNATIONAL RACEWAY, July 5

- |                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Raphael Matos     | AFS/Andretti Green Racing |
| 2 Richard Antinucci | Sam Schmidt Motorsports   |
| 3 Jeff Simmons      | Team Moore Racing         |

## CORNING DUEL 2, WATKINS GLEN INTERNATIONAL RACEWAY, July 5

- |                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Richard Antinucci | Sam Schmidt Motorsports   |
| 2 Raphael Matos     | AFS/Andretti Green Racing |
| 3 Ana Beatriz       | Sam Schmidt Motorsports   |

## SUNBELT RENTALS 100, NASHVILLE SUPERSPEEDWAY, July 12

- |                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Ana Beatriz       | Sam Schmidt Motorsports   |
| 2 Bobby Wilson      | Team E                    |
| 3 Arie Luyendyk Jr. | Andretti Green/AFS Racing |

## MID-OHIO 100, MID-OHIO SPORTS CAR COURSE, July 19

- |                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Raphael Matos     | AFS/Andretti Green Racing |
| 2 Franck Perera     | Guthrie Racing            |
| 3 Richard Antinucci | Sam Schmidt Motorsports   |

## MID-OHIO 100 RACE 2, MID-OHIO SPORTS CAR COURSE, July 20

- |                   |                         |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 James Davison   | Sam Schmidt Motorsports |
| 2 Wade Cunningham | Alliance Motorsports    |
| 3 Pablo Donoso    | Team Moore Racing       |

**For more on Firestone Indy Lights, check out [indycar.com/indylights](http://indycar.com/indylights)**

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**BLAST FROM THE PAST**

(Above) Rookie Jack Black...er, we mean Chip Ganassi, qualified 11th for the 1982 Indy 500. In '08, Chip Ganassi Racing's Scott Dixon (below) won the team's second Indy 500

IMS Archive

# Performance Chip

Chip Ganassi's driving career wasn't exactly stellar, but it was the catalyst for his successful move into ownership



Dan Stryck/LAT



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## If you could add a race to the 2009 IndyCar Series schedule...

### E.J. VISO

"Budapest in Hungary, because it's such a nice track and a place I really love. It's a very physical place and you need to be very focused. It has everything I like, and the women are amazing."

### BUDDY RICE

"It would be nice to go to Portugal but, being realistic, it would be good to go to Montreal. It's a cool place and I like the layout. I think we need to hit one of the Canadian rounds on the East Coast and that would be a good place."

### MARTY ROTH

"Toronto is a great racetrack and I'd like to wake up in the morning in my own bed before racing." (You've got your wish, Marty - Ed)

### GRAHAM RAHAL

"Cleveland, because it's close to home for me and, being an airport circuit it's great for fans. It's a lot of fun to race at; it's really wide and you can race two-wide."



The streets of Toronto will join the 2009 IndyCar Series schedule much to Marty Roth's delight

Robert Laberge/AT

"I don't do hot dogs. It has to be a Johnsonville brat. A brat is actually proper meat. Mustard, ketchup, maybe a little fried onion in beer. Golden"

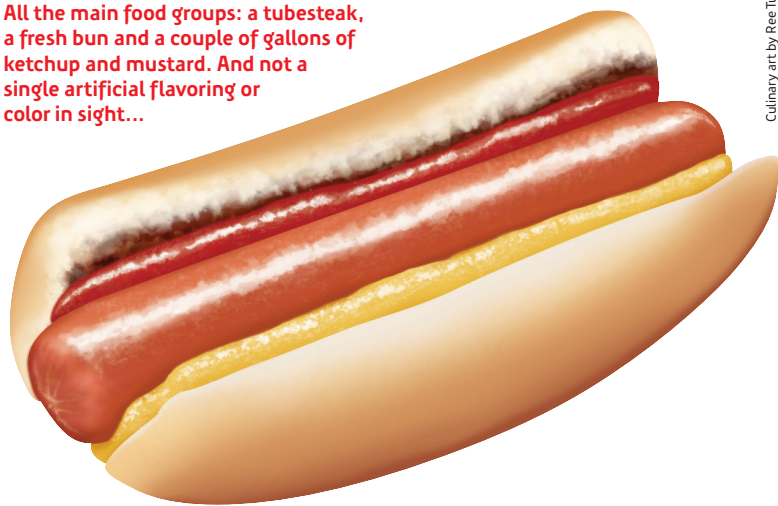
Darren "Iron Chef" Manning

www.indycar.com

## THE BIG QUESTION...

### We're buying, so what do you want on your hot dog?

All the main food groups: a tubesteak, a fresh bun and a couple of gallons of ketchup and mustard. And not a single artificial flavoring or color in sight...



Culinary art by Ree Tucker

#### MARIO DOMINGUEZ

"I'd rather have a corndog, but if I ate a hot dog, I'd like lots of ketchup, mustard, mayo, jalapeños."

#### BRUNO JUNQUEIRA

"I like cheese, onions and tomatoes. Healthy - except for the hot dog."

#### DANICA PATRICK

"Just ketchup, please."

#### BUDDY RICE

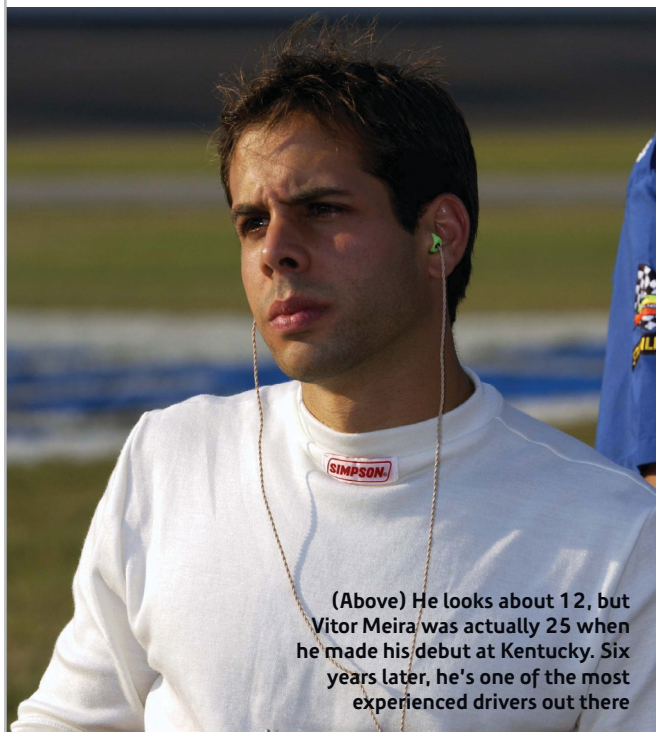
"Ketchup and mustard, for sure."

#### GRAHAM RAHAL

"Here's how you do it: cut the hotdog down the middle, insert a piece of bacon and wrap it in cheese. Perfection."

#### JAIME CAMARA

"Mustard only."



(Above) He looks about 12, but Vitor Meira was actually 25 when he made his debut at Kentucky. Six years later, he's one of the most experienced drivers out there

F. Peirce Williams/LAT

## VITOR MEIRA'S FIRST INDYCAR SERIES RACE...

"It was Kentucky Speedway in 2002 and I remember thinking, 'Holy Moly!' I remember racing for 20 laps with Raul Boesel, so that was pretty cool. Then I passed him, which was even better"

## Who do you root for?



Dan Strech/LAT Image Manipulation/Ree Tucker

#### WILL POWER

"Back home they have a thing called the State of Origin for Rugby League Football, which is huge and I follow that. There's a best-of-three series between the best players representing Queensland and New South Wales. It's a massive game, always real rough and always plenty of fighting."

#### MARTY ROTH

"I'm a [Toronto Maple] Leafs fan all the way. I've been going to their games since I was a little kid. It's great to see when they do well, and it's great to see them be the underdog, too."

#### GRAHAM RAHAL

"Living in Columbus, if you don't follow Ohio State football, there's something wrong with you. When I'm home I go to a lot of Blue Jackets [NHL] games."



Lazy days in San Diego, a 900hp sand racer, bike rides in the Nevada desert and a trip to Goodwood. Paul Tracy gives us the lowdown

## PAUL TRACY

### What was your workout regime while you weren't racing?

I reduced the cardio, and I was lifting more weights, which put on a bit too much size and muscle. So, a couple of weeks before Edmonton I switched back to more bike riding – two and a half hours a day, starting at 7 a.m., when it's 90 degrees [in Las Vegas]. By the time you get back it's 100.

### What else have you been up to?

A bit of home improvement. My wife Patty and I took the kids to San Diego (right) on holiday for 10 days. From there, I went straight to Goodwood, but I had to cut that a day short because I got word that my Edmonton ride had been confirmed and I needed a seat-fitting.

### What are your favorite circuits?

I enjoy street circuits the most, and I've had the most success on them. Surfers Paradise and Vancouver are two of my favorites. And I like Edmonton, which is like a combination of street and road course.

### What tracks would you like to have raced on, but haven't?

Spa, definitely, and Monaco: it's the sort of street track I think I'd do well at.



### Is there anyone in motorsport history who you'd like to have raced against?

Well, I only raced Mario Andretti at the end of his career, so him. But after going to the Goodwood Festival in England, I have a much healthier respect for the guys who raced turbo F1 cars. The stuff that Ayrton Senna, Niki Lauda and Nigel Mansell drove back then had 1200 or 1300hp, but your feet were hanging out ahead of the front wheels, and your shoulders were hanging out the top of the cockpit. Very dangerous, very quick.

### What's great about Las Vegas?

Nothing in particular. It's an easy place to travel in and out of because

there are direct flights everywhere. And there's no state income tax.

### Your dad's Irish, your mom's English, you're Canadian and you live in the U.S. Do you have split loyalties?

No, because my parents have lived in Canada for 43 years. Toronto's my favorite part of Canada, and I'm 100 percent Canadian, no question.

### What are your other four-wheeled vehicles at the moment?

A Chevy pick-up, a Mercedes CL600, and a Mercedes S600. And my sand racer, of course. It's got a 7-liter Corvette motor from the Z06, but with twin-turbos producing 910hp at the tires.

### What unfulfilled ambitions do you have outside of racing?

My focus is totally on racing. If I don't do the IndyCar Series, I'd like to get into endurance racing and go do the 24 Hours of Daytona and Le Mans.

### If your kids said they wanted to take up racing, would you encourage them to do it?

Sure. Actually, we're all on our way over to the kart track as I'm speaking to you. ■

## INTRODUCING

Canada's own Paul Tracy is the center of attention in Edmonton, Alberta, the scene of his 2008 IndyCar Series debut



Dan Strech/LAT

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